Cortero, Liza

From:

Vandana Bali [vbali@alac.org]

Sent:

Monday, January 30, 2006 3:57 PM

To:

governor@governor.ca.gov

Cc:

Baker, Anne; Tutt, Eileen; Lloyd Ph.D., Alan C.

Subject:

Health Professionals Support Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in California

to Meet Your Climate Targets

Attachments: HNCA Climate Targets Support Letter_1.26.06.doc

Health Network for Clean Air Anelwork of health organizations working to improve air quality in California AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION:

January 30, 2006

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger

Governor of California

State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

governor@governor.ca.gov

RE: Health Professionals Support Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in California to Meet Your Climate Targets

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

As public health representatives from organizations concerned about improving public health and quality of life in California, we applied your actions to address the important public health issue of global warming. We thank you for your strong support of the first-ever California Air Resources Board regulation to curb greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles, also known as the California Clean Cars law. We congratulate you for your strong, public commitment to greenhouse gas reduction as outlined in your June 2005 Executive Order. Now we are writing to urge you to move forward quickly to implement key strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

California is the 12th largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world. Global warming threatens our economy, quality of life, our health and our environment. California already has the worst air quality in the nation and higher temperatures from global warming will only worsen the situation. Higher temperatures contribute to the formation of ground level ozone, a key ingredient of smog. In addition, hotter temperatures lead to increases in emissions of ozone pre-cursors and toxic air contaminants from increased energy production; increased electricity demand, and increased evaporation of pollutants from cars and fueling stations. Studies conducted recently indicate that global warming could increase the number of smoggy days by up to 85%.

The expectation of dramatic increases in smoggy days is a serious concern for health professionals. Increases in ground level ozone, particulate matter and other pollutants have been linked to serious health problems, including increased asthma attacks and other respiratory illnesses, increased hospitalizations and emergency room visits, increased cardiac illnesses, increased damage to children's lungs and increased cases of cancer and premature deaths. As you know, air pollution has the most detrimental effects on sensitive groups, including seniors, people with heart or lung disease, children and infants. Given California's already high asthma rates, especially among children, the State must do everything possible to reduce air pollution, including global warming gases.

As public health professionals, we urge you and your administration to move forward expeditiously in implementing the strategies your staff has recommended for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our state. California must implement all of the strategies identified in order to meet your climate targets.

We support your advisors' key recommendations to implement greenhouse gas reductions, including mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and establishment of a public goods charge to stimulate development of alternative technologies and petroleum reduction strategies. We believe that a public goods charge on transportation is a fair and equitable way to generate funds that are desperately needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the public from worsening air quality. Like the public goods charge on electricity, which has helped California's electricity sector become one of the cleanest in country, a public goods charge on transportation will generate a comparable level of investment in the transportation sector, which is the single biggest source of global warming pollution in our state. We also urge you to go one step further – to implement a mandatory cap on greenhouse gas emissions. We believe this mandatory cap is needed to insure that California stays on target in meeting the goals of your executive order.

You have the support of the public health organizations listed here, Governor Schwarzenegger. Now, we are calling on you to ensure that the State continues it's leadership on this important global issue by enacting strong measures to meet all the targets you have set out for reducing greenhouse gases. We look forward to working together with you on this important initiative to protect public health in California. For additional information, please feel free to contact Vandana Bali at 415-

775-1065 or vbali@alac.org or Bonnie Holmes-Gen at 916-42-4446 or bhgen@alac.org.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Holmes-Gen

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Assistant Vice President

Vice President, Advocacy

American Lung Association of California

American Heart Association, Western States

Nancy Spradling

Kris Calvin, MA

Executive Director

Executive Director

California School Nurses Organization

American Academy of Pediatrics,

California District IX

Joel Ervice

James K. Knox

Interim Director

Vice-President, Legislative Advocacy

Regional Asthma Management

American Cancer Society,

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cc:

Alan Lloyd, Ph.D.

Eileen Tutt

Secretary, CalEPA

Special Assistant to Secretary, CalEPA

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Anne Baker

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Cortero, Liza

Nahigian, Joy From:

Tuesday, January 31, 2006 2:06 PM Sent:

To: Cortero, Liza

Subject: FW: Health Care Professionals Support Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in

California

~ Joy Nahigian

Joy Nahigian Assistant to the Secretary California Environmental Protection Agency 916/324-9692

From: Vandana Bali [mailto:vbali@alac.org] Sent: Monday, January 30, 2006 10:45 PM

To: governor@governor.ca.gov; Lloyd Ph.D., Alan C.

Cc: Tutt, Eileen; Baker, Anne

Subject: Health Care Professionals Support Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in California

A network of health organizations working to improve air quality in California

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

January 31, 2006

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger & Secretary Lloyd:

We the undersigned health care professionals are concerned about improving public health and quality of life in California. We applaud your actions to address the important public health issue of global warming, and we thank you for your strong support of the first-ever California Air Resources Board regulation to curb greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles, the California Clean Cars law. We strongly support the statewide greenhouse gas reduction targets outlined in your June 2005 Executive Order. Now we are writing to urge you to move forward quickly to implement key strategies to implement

those targets.

We support strong new measures to monitor and reduce greenhouse gas reductions, including the key recommendations in the report drafted by the Governor's Climate Action team. For example, we support mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions, strong implementation of the Cleaner Cars Law and new measures to reduce petroleum dependence. We also urge you to go one step further — to implement a mandatory statewide cap on greenhouse gas emissions from all sources. We believe this mandatory cap is needed to insure that California stays on target in meeting the goals of your executive order.

As health care professionals, we treat patients suffering from illnesses that are caused or exacerbated by air pollution and we see, first-hand, the detrimental effects air pollution has on sensitive groups, including seniors, people with heart or lung disease, children and infants. Given California's already high asthma rates, especially among children, we urge you to do everything possible to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases. We are calling on you to ensure that the State continues its leadership on this important global issue by enacting strong measures to meet all the targets you have set out for reducing greenhouse gases.

Signed,

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January 30, 2006

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Sincerely.

воппіє Holmes-Gen Assistant Vice President American Lung Association of California

Nancy Spradling Executive Director California School Nurses Organization American Academy of Pediatrics.

Joel Ervice Interim Director

Vice President, Advocacy American Heart Association, Western States

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